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TRENDS

ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN RAILROADS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, April 19, 1984 -- Freight traffic on major U.S. railroads during the week ended April 14 totaled an estimated 18.0 billion ton-miles, 18.5 percent above the corresponding week a year ago, the Association of American Railroads reported today.

Cumulative volume for the first 15 weeks of 1984 was an estimated 258.7 billion ton-miles, 14.6 percent above the comparable period of last year.

Carloadings in the week ended April 14 totaled 409,656, 15.4 percent above 1983, and 2.5 percent higher than the preceding week of this year. Compared with last year, loadings were up 16.9 percent in the East, 8.7 percent in the South and 18.5 percent in the West.

Compared with the corresponding week of 1983, 15 of the 21 commodity groups were up, with grain loadings posting a gain of 8,894 cars (42.8 percent), and coal loadings showing an increase of 22,350 cars (22.9 percent). Thirteen of the 21 groups increased from the preceding week of this year.

Piggyback

The AAR also reported that piggyback freight traffic on major railroads for the week ended April 7 totaled 53,901 cars, up 38.8 percent from the corresponding week of 1983, and 89,236 trailers and/or containers, 34.0 percent higher than last year.

The cumulative volume of TOFC/COFC traffic for the first 14 weeks of the year was 697,693 cars, 19.6 percent higher than last year, and 1,214,921 trailers and/or containers, up 21.2 percent.

(more)

Following are carloadings of major railroads, by commodity groups, for the week ended 4/14/84:

	Loadings in Week ended April 14, 1984		Change from Corresponding Week 1983			Change from Preceding Week	
	Cars		Cars	Percent		Cars	Percent
Grain	29,660	I	8,894	42.8	I	246	0.8
Other farm products	4,435	I	856	23.9	I	154	3.5
Metallic ores	16,946	I	1,157	7.3	I	1,736	10.2
Coal	120,068	I	22,350	22.9	I	6,832	5.7
Crushed stone, gravel and sand	10,968	I	1,521	16.1	I	185	1.7
Nonmetallic minerals	10,943	D	1,519	12.2	D	300	2.7
Grain mill products	10,505	D	1,524	12.7	I	137	1.3
Food and kindred products	11,200	D	1,053	8.6	I	381	3.4
Primary forest products	14,304	D	452	3.1	I	342	2.4
Lumber and wood products except furniture	7,616	I	583	8.3	I	93	1.2
Pulp, paper and allied products	14,435	D	838	5.5	D	745	5.2
Chemicals and allied products	26,368	I	4,277	19.4	I	1,556	5.9
Petroleum products	5,140	I	493	10.6	D	40	0.8
Stone, clay and glass products	11,380	I	1,150	11.2	I	117	1.0
Coke	5,558	I	899	19.3	D	78	1.4
Metals and products	10,531	I	1,987	23.3	D	380	3.6
Motor vehicles and equipment	20,799	I	3,243	18.5	D	498	2.4
Waste and scrap materials	10,538	I	1,819	20.9	I	469	4.5
Forwarder and shipper association traffic	7,502	D	1,182	13.6	D	533	7.1
All other carloads	60,490	I	11,927	24.6	I	140	0.2
LCL traffic	270	I	34	14.4	D	2	0.7
Total Cars Loaded	409,656	I	54,622	15.4	I	9,812	2.5
Corresponding week of 1983	355,034						

	1984	1983	% Change
Total Cars Loaded (15 weeks)	5,858,474	5,156,584	I 13.6
Estimated revenue ton-miles (in billions):			
14 weeks ended April 7	240.7	210.6	I 14.3
Week ended April 14	18.0	15.2	I 18.5
15 weeks cumulative	258.7	225.7	I 14.6

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